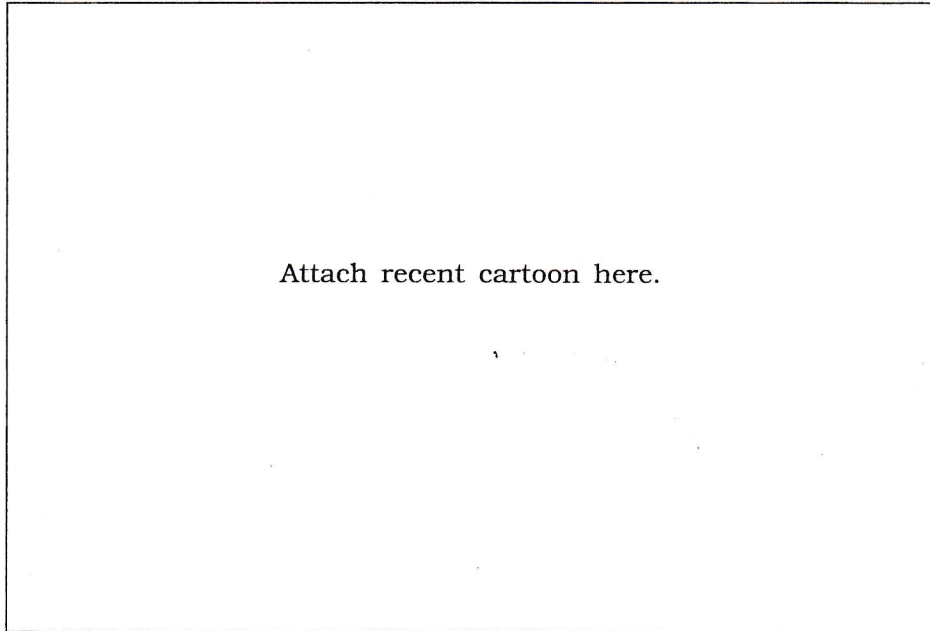


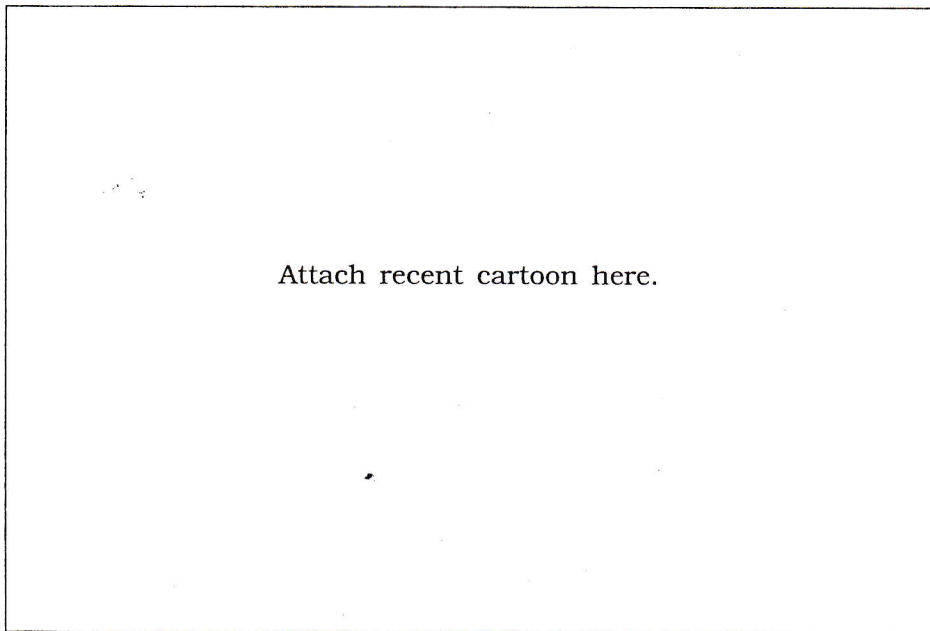
Satirical Cartoons

Directions: Examine the cartoons, and answer the questions that follow.

Cartoon 1



Cartoon 2



Devices of Satire

Term	Definition/Description	Example	Additional Example(s)
Mockery	making fun of something	"Man is the only animal that blushes—or needs to." —Mark Twain	
Sarcasm	harsh, personally directed comment; using praise to mock someone; usually aims to hurt	To refer to a 98-pound weakling as a "real he-man"	
Overstatement	say more than is meant; exaggeration	"I'm so hungry that I could eat a horse."	
Understatement	saying less than is meant	"Mount Everest is not small."	
Parody	imitation of a specific, known person, literary work, movie, or event; often involves mocking	General MacArthur said, "Old soldiers never die, they just fade away." Parody: "Old blondes never grey, they just dye away."	
Irony	say one thing, yet meaning another	In <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> , when Romeo tells Mercutio that his wound is slight, Mercutio says, "No, it's not so deep as a well, nor so wide as a church door; but 'tis enough, t'will serve."	
Bathos	going from the serious to the ridiculous quickly	"I love my country, my wife, my job and chocolate candy."	
Mock-Heroic	imitation, exaggeration, and distortion of literary epic style	"The garbage man, tall and strong, lifted his glittering can of rubbish as if it were a feather, and with the strength of Thor, hurled it into the dumpster."	

Satiric in Words

Directions: Read the following satirical passages, and answer the questions.

Indifference

When Grandmamma fell off the boat,
And couldn't swim (and wouldn't float),
Matilda just stood by and smiled.
I almost could have slapped the child.

—Anonymous

1. Do you find "Indifference" humorous? Why or why not?
2. What does this verse satirize?
3. What satirical devices are included?

My Lord Tomnoddy

My Lord Tomnoddy's the son of an Earl.
His hair is straight, but his whiskers curl;
His Lordship's forehead is far from wide,
But there's plenty of room for the brains inside.
He writes his name with indifferent ease.
He's rather uncertain about the "d's,"—
But what does it matter, if three or one,
To the Earl of Fitzdotterel's eldest son?

My Lord Tomnoddy to college went;
Much time he lost, much money he spent;
Rules, and windows, and heads, he broke—
Authorities wink'd—young men will joke!
He never peep'd inside of a book—
In two years' time a degree he took;
And the newspapers vaunted the honours won
By the Earl of Fitzdotteral's eldest son.

My Lord Tomnoddy came out in the world,
Waists were tighten'd, and ringlets curl'd

Virgins languish'd, and matrons smil'd—
'Tis true, his Lordship is rather wild;
In very queer places he spends his life;
There's talk of some children, by nobody's wife—
But we mustn't look close into what is done
By the Earl of Fitzdotterel's eldest son.

My Lord Tomnoddy must settle down—
There's a vacant seat in the family town!
('Tis time he should sow his eccentric oats)—
He hasn't the wit to apply for votes;
He cannot e'en learn his election speech
Three phrases he speaks—a mistake in each!
And then breaks down—but the borough is won
For the Earl of Fitzdotterel's eldest son.

My Lord Tomnoddy prefers the Guards,
(The House is a bore!) so it's on the cards!
My Lord's a Lieutenant at twenty-three
A Captain at twenty-six is he—
He never drew sword, except on drill;
The tricks of parade he has learnt but ill—
A full-blown Colonel at thirty-one
Is the Earl of Fitzdotterel's eldest son!

My Lord Tomnoddy is thirty-four;
The Earl can last but a few years more.
My Lord in the Peers will take his place;
Her Majesty's councils his words will grace.
Office he'll hold, and patronage sway;
Fortunes and lives he will vote away—
And what are his qualifications?—ONE!
He's the Earl of Fitzdotterel's eldest son!

—Anonymous

1. What adjectives best describe the character of Lord Tomnoddy?
2. What happens to him? Why?
3. What does this verse satirize?

The Elizabethan Theater

The theater of Shakespeare's day was modeled on the medieval innyard, as may be seen by the sign over the entrance, reading "Inne." There was no roof over the center part, which was occupied by "groundlings," poor people anxiously watching for rain clouds. There were also no seats in this part of the theater, and even at unpopular plays there was standing room only. Some spectators sat in galleries, around the sides, while the wealthy, the influential, and the nearsighted sat on the stage.

The first theater was very sensibly called the Theater. The most famous theater, however, was the Globe, an octagonal building especially suited to Shakespeare's many-sided genius. Shakespeare was co-owner of the Globe, which burned down in 1613 when a cannon, shot off to awaken the spectators, set fire to the thatch.

The front stage was surrounded on three sides by the audience, which would have made it hard for John Barrymore, playing Hamlet, to show only his good profile. Separated from the front stage by a curtain was a rear stage. The curtain could be drawn to disclose a lady's bedchamber, a monk's cell, or a tomb, depending on whether the occupant was male or female, alive or dead. Above the stage was a balcony for balcony scenes, and still higher was a place for letting down angels and drawing up pitchers of ale. On the stage itself were numerous trapdoors, used when actors went to Hell.

To the rear of the rear stage were tiring rooms, where actors grew weary from putting on and taking off costumes. At either side of the front stage were doors. These, according to scholars who have given their lives to a study of Elizabethan theater, were used to go in and out of.

Admission to the theater ranged from a penny, for standing room in the yard, to three pennies, for a good seat in the gallery, tax included. This was cheaper than bearbaiting, because you didn't have to bring bait.

In Shakespeare's day people came to the theater to escape from the sordid realities of daily life and to relax. Nothing relaxed them so much as to see Hamlet running his sword through Laertes, Macduff carrying around Macbeth's head, Romeo falling dead in Juliet's bier, and Othello smothering Desdemona. It was sometimes difficult for them to decide, however, whether to spend the afternoon relaxing at the theater or at a public execution.

—Richard Armour

1. Find two or three witty sentences or phrases that appeal to you.
2. What does this passage about the Elizabethan theater satirize?
3. What satirical devices are used?